1;Stanford U; S-4; 5 1956 AF16 SW China
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243 saved in bundles for thatch and for fuel.[3]

[427] 241 Once the harvest is in, the farmer, if he is a tenant, has to pay a share -- often 40 per cent of the crop -- to the landlord.[4] He must also deal with the tax collector who relieves him of yet another substantial share of his crop. If the year has gone well, the rice borers have not destroyed too much of his crop, and the tax collector has not been unduly rapacious, the farmer may retain enough grain to see his family through to the next harvest and have some to sell in the nearest market town. After he has prepared his fields for the crops of winter wheat and rape, the farmer and his household turn to a variety of winter chores: repairing farm implements and buildings, weaving thatch, spinning and weaving rough cloth, making shoes, and doing other household chores. With the approach of the New Year the farmer looks forward to some festivity, perhaps calling for a feast and the slaughtering of the family pig; if debt looms large, the pig may have to be sold to help pay the bills.[5]

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3. Cf. the description in Gerald Winfield, China, The Land the The People, New York, 1948, pp. 49-52. For the slightly different work cycle in the terraced upland ricefields, cf. ibid., pp. 53-58.

4. Cf. Morton Fried, The Fabric of Chinese Society, New York, 1953, pp. 186-200. On

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